

BIBLE READING LIST FOR MAY 15-21

<p><u>May 15</u> II Samuel 15 Psalms 3-4, 12-13, 28, 55</p>	<p>David sinned in the matter of Bathsheba (II Samuel 11). He confessed his sin (chapter 12; Psalm 51). God forgave his sin (I John 1:9). He will never have to face that sin in eternity, and God expunges it from the record in I Chronicles giving His view of this story. But the closing chapters in II Samuel that we will read this week illustrate graphically that seeds sown can bear bitter fruit here on Earth, even after God has forgiven us.</p>
<p><u>May 16</u> II Samuel 16-17 Psalme 26, 40</p>	<p>Joab talked David into allowing Absalom to come back to Israel, and so the invitation was extended. Absalom came back, but it was not just so he could live in the palace. He had fled to his grandfather, who was the king in his own land. Absalom came back with ambition and a plan. Chapter 15 starts with Absalom laying groundwork by criticizing David's rule and winning the allegiance of people by promising to give them what they want (sound familiar?).</p>
<p><u>May 17</u> II Samuel 18 Psalms 58, 61-62, 64</p>	<p>David's problem was that he allowed Absalom to come back to where he could do some damage, but he didn't really restore Absalom to any kind of fellowship (II Samuel 14:24). But there was one there who was very willing to become an ally of Absalom against the king. The father of Bathsheba (II Samuel 11:3) was the son of Ahithophel (II Samuel 23:34). So Bathsheba's grandfather was David's closest counsellor. Doubtlessly he had been simmering since the defilement of his granddaughter and the murder of her husband. God forgives and doesn't remember; man is not so gracious. Absalom's takeover of Jerusalem in the next couple of chapters has the fingerprints of Ahithophel all over it. Then when Absalom was flattered out of following Ahithophel's winning strategy (II Samuel 17:1-3) and adopting Hushai's losing plan (verses 5-13), Ahithophel hanged himself.</p>
<p><u>May 18</u> II Samuel 19 Psalms 5, 38</p>	<p>The wrongs we do people come back to haunt us (Numbers 32:23). We should also take advantage of every opportunity to genuinely reconcile with all with whom we have had trouble. Like David, we often inflict our worst problems on ourselves.</p>
<p><u>May 19</u> II Samuel 20-21 Psalms 41-42</p>	<p>The wrongs we do people come back to haunt us (Numbers 32:23). We should also take advantage of every opportunity to genuinely reconcile with all with whom we have had trouble. Like David, we often inflict our worst problems on ourselves.</p>
<p><u>May 20</u> II Samuel 22-23 Psalms 57, 95, 97-99</p>	<p>The wrongs we do people come back to haunt us (Numbers 32:23). We should also take advantage of every opportunity to genuinely reconcile with all with whom we have had trouble. Like David, we often inflict our worst problems on ourselves.</p>
<p><u>May 21</u> II Samuel 24 Psalms 30, 108-109</p>	<p>The wrongs we do people come back to haunt us (Numbers 32:23). We should also take advantage of every opportunity to genuinely reconcile with all with whom we have had trouble. Like David, we often inflict our worst problems on ourselves.</p>